

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. An identifier indicating the status of each claim is provided.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling delivery of text messages to a subscriber in a telecommunications services apparatus, the method comprising the steps of:

selecting a mode of delivery from a plurality of delivery modes by the subscriber for at least one selected from the group consisting of (i) a future text message and (ii) a category of future text messages;

implementing the selected mode of delivery by a message processing means which is part of a home network with which the subscriber's mobile telephone is associated, wherein text messages intended by a sender for delivery to said subscriber are directed to the message processing means which then implements the selected delivery mode;

intercepting a routing query from another network made in response to a request from a user associated with said another network by a signal processing means provided in said home network;

detecting by the signal processing means that the subscriber has selected a mode of delivery; and

providing by the signal processing means, in response to the routing query on behalf of an HLR (home location register) of the home network, a modified address which causes the text message from said another network to be directed to said message processing means for implementation of said delivery mode,

wherein the modified address is used instead of an address from the HLR.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which the message processing means is an SMS router.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 in which the signal processing means is an SMS router.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which one of the delivery modes which is available is a mode providing a delayed message delivery during selected hours of the day.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which one of the delivery modes which is available is a mode providing diversion of text messages to fixed line when the subscriber is in a home cell.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which one of the delivery modes which is available is a mode providing diversion of messages to an alternative mobile number.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which one of the delivery modes which is available is a mode providing diversion of messages on a time of day basis.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which one of the delivery modes which is available is a mode providing conversion of messages to voice for delivery in a voice call.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which one of the delivery modes which is available is a mode providing special handling of some messages according to originator number.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which one of the delivery modes which is available is a mode providing filtering of messages by address information or content.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which one of the delivery modes which is available is a mode providing delivery by fax.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which one of the delivery modes which is available is a mode providing delivery by e-mail.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which the subscriber makes the selection by a USSD command.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claims 1 in which the subscriber makes the selection by an SMS.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claims 1 in which the subscriber makes the selection by means of an interactive voice call.

17. (Currently Amended) A telecommunications network comprising:
a message processing means capable of storing a selection of at least one selectable mode of delivery of a text message made by a subscriber to a network incorporating the message processing means and to implement the selected mode of delivery on receipt by the message processing means of a text message, intended for receipt by said subscriber, by forwarding the message to at least one delivery path of the message processing means;

an HLR (home location register); and

a signal processing means, said signal processing means being configured in association with the HLR to intercept routing queries sent to the HLR of said network from another network, for receiving a text message from such another network, to detect that the subscriber has previously made a selection as to a chosen mode of delivery and to communicate with the HLR but to provide a modified address which will cause the text message from said another network to be sent to the message processing means which will then effect delivery in accordance with a previously selected mode or modes of delivery,

wherein the modified address is used instead of an address from the HLR.

18. (Previously Presented) A telecommunications-network as claimed in claim 17 in which the message processing means is an SMS router.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously Presented) A telecommunications network as claimed in claim 17 in which the signal processing means is an SMS router.

21. (Currently Amended) A telecommunications services apparatus comprising:

a home location register (HLR);

a signal processing means configured to intercept routing queries sent to the HLR of one network from another network, the signal processing means being configured to detect that a subscriber has previously made a selection as to a chosen mode of delivery and to communicate with the HLR to provide a modified address which will cause a text message from said another network to be sent to a message processing means, the message processing means being operative to effect delivery in accordance with a mode or modes of delivery previously selected by a recipient of the message,

wherein the modified address is used instead of an address from the HLR.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2 in which the signal processing means is an SMS router.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 in which one of the delivery modes which is available is a mode providing delivery by voice call.